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THE WAR HOUSEHOLD IN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] ***Societies and Branches in the Union* 561.** **[NON-PARTY.**

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Notes and News.

Another State for Women's Suffrage.

"By a vote of 62 to 15 the Oklahoma House of Representatives on February 12th adopted a joint resolution authorising the submission to the voters of an equal suffrage amendment to the State constitution. Should the resolution be adopted by the Senate, the amendment would be submitted to the electorate in August," says *The Woman's Journal*. "The action in the House was preceded by a Democratic caucus, which voted in favour of the passage of the amendment. The resolution was introduced by Representative Harrison, of Seminole County, who worked vigorously in the caucus for the success of the measure."

Refugee Mothers and Babies.

Miss Thurstan, who went to Russia early in December as Nursing Organiser to the British Women's Maternity Hospital in Petrograd, has now returned. Her activities were not confined to that particular piece of work. She was able to make a short tour in some of the less civilised parts of Russia, and penetrated nearly into Asia. This tour was undertaken in order that Miss Thurstan might be able to give us some idea of the possibility of developing the work of the N.U.W.S.S. Maternity Units in Russia. In THE COMMON CAUSE of last week the scheme dealing with a model Baby Home was described. It is almost certain that this particular piece of work will be organised. Another call for help comes from Kazan, where the students of the University are doing wonders among the refugees, but urgently ask for assistance from our Unit, and instructions have been sent to the Administrator to co-operate with them if she deems it advisable. Such valuable work cannot be undertaken without funds. While fully appreciating the generous response that has already been made to their appeal, the Committee, on the strength of Miss Thurstan's report and the possibilities of the future, make a renewed appeal for money, by means of which these possibilities may become certainties.

SCHOOL FOR MOTHERS AT MOSCOW.

An Appreciation of Royaumont.

Dr. Weinberg, who holds the office of Chef de Laboratoire at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, whilst lecturing to members of the medical profession in Glasgow on "Gas Gangrene," paid a splendid tribute to the work of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital at Royaumont, which he had visted.

He had, he said, seen hundreds and hundreds of military hospitals, but none the organisation and direction of which won his admiration so completely. Every duty in the hospital, from those of the chief surgeon to the chauffeur of the motor ambulances, was performed by women. He was impelled to express his admiration of the manner in which cases were treated. At the beginning the soldier patients were somewhat inclined to "rag" the ladies, but now the military authorities had such confidence in the hospital that they were ready to trust to its care the most severe class of cases. Of the bacteriological department of the hospital, which was arranged by Dr. Butler (who is now one of the assistants of the Glasgow Corporation sanitary staff), Dr. Weinberg was equally enthusiastic. He was struck with the most perfect order which prevailed, notwithstanding the apparently entire absence of anything in the form of rigid disciplinary measures. He attributed this order to the fact that the patients recognised how devoted were the staff to their care and interests. It was the soldiers' natural recognition of the excellent services and attention given by all the staff to their care and interests. Dr. Weinberg expressed the opinion that he could not imagine any activity on the part of women that would so effectively further the cause of the women's movement as the work of the Scottish Women's Hospital.

The Rediscovery of a Hemisphere.

"One of the most distinguishing marks of the present epoch in Western civilisation is the rapid and general change in the position taken by women in public and private life," says a writer in *The Times Literary Supplement*, who foresees a great acceleration of the movement in the near future, because the war, so far from checking it, has stimulated it, given it a great impetus. "Under the strain of the severest of all ordeals

the nations are discovering new and unsuspected capacities in women, and are learning to rely upon them to a degree not hitherto conceived. In one sense the experience confirms the old argument that in the last resort the decisive criterion of worth to the community lies in the capacity to bear arms, which remains a masculine privilege. But the present war has also proved as never before that the masculine part of bearing arms entails the support of the feminine population at home, without which it cannot be effectively exercised. This has spread and intensified interest in the position of woman, enlarged the general conception of her functions, and reacted on the process of change mentioned above. She has established a new claim and won a new recognition."

Mr. Walter Long on Woman in the Home.

It is of some interest to note the remarks recently made by Mr. Walter Long at a meeting held at Grosvenor House to inaugurate the Women's National Service Corps. "He had been connected," he said, "with agriculture for forty years, and knew few duties that women could not perform if they cared to undertake them. Women used to do work on the land; then it became the fashion to preach to them that their duty was in their homes not in the fields. That it was more in accord with progress for them to remain in their homes. The result of these ideas cannot be broken down in a moment, but must be overcome by degrees." Slowly, but surely, "overcome by degrees," "the result of these ideas" must have been broken down even in the stubbornly prejudiced mind of an anti-Suffragist Cabinet Minister before he could appeal to British women-citizens to come out of their homes to serve the State.

The Women Step In.

A new Advisory Committee has been appointed to facilitate the replacement of men by women in industry. Its duties are, firstly, "to advise the Board of Trade and Home Office on questions arising from time to time out of the measures required to be taken by those Departments to give practical effect to the policy of his Majesty's Government of extending the employment of women in industrial occupations, so as to enable essential industries to be maintained in spite of the depletion of their supply of male labour by recruiting for war purposes; and, secondly, to watch and report from time to time on the progress made in different localities and industries in the extension of the employment of women." The members of the Committee are:—Mr. Cecil Harmsworth, M.P. (chairman), Miss A. H. Anderson, Mr. W. H. Beveridge, Mr. G. W. Currie, M.I., Miss Hilda Cashmore, Mr. M. Delevigne, Miss F. H. Durham, Mr. O'Grady, M.P., Miss Violet Markham, Mr. Cummings, Mr. J. S. Nicholson, Mr. Seebohm Rowntree, and Mr. Shackleton.

"An Asset of Immense Importance."

A strong appeal has also been issued on behalf of the Government by the Home Secretary and the President of the Board of Trade, urging employers to maintain our manufacturing industries in their fullest vigor, and pointing out that "there is one source, and one source only," from which the shortage of labour can be made good—"the great body of women who are at present unoccupied, or engaged only in work not of an essential character." Many of these women, it is pointed out, have already had an industrial training. "They form an asset of immense importance at the present time, and every effort must be made to induce those who are able to come to the assistance of the country in this crisis."

"We are confident," concludes the appeal, "that the women of the country will respond to any call that may be made, but the first step rests with the employers."

The Times makes the pertinent suggestion that the chief step for employers to take "is to offer adequate wages, and the sooner employers of all kinds grasp that elementary proposition, the sooner their requirements will be met."

Miss Mary MacArthur gives a word of caution to women anxious to do "war work." Register, is her advice, but stick to your job till a post is actually offered to you. "To my own personal knowledge," she states, "a number of competent women have had the greatest difficulty in finding suitable employment, and in several cases have been unemployed for several weeks." The Federation of University Women reports that, as far as they can make out, *the Government is keeping all its higher-grade clerks.*

Economy in France and England.

In the task set before us of replanning our lives and "adapting our way of living to our convictions," it was felt that no counsel would be so helpful and illuminating as a comparative study of French and English ways of living. Mme. De Witt-Schlumberger, President of the Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes, interested herself personally in the project, and it was at her request that Mme. Rudler consented to write a valuable special article for The Common Cause, which is concluded in the present number. We should like to express our cordial thanks to Mme. Rudler, who has placed her intimate knowledge of French and English life at our disposal, and shown in practical details how the "high spirit of service" can transform household routine; and also to Mme. De Witt-Schlumberger, through whose kindly interest and sympathy the article came to be written, and who has herself added a postscript to Mme. Rudler's contribution.

Two Forthcoming Special Numbers.

Our next issue, which will be devoted to women's work on munitions, will contain articles of special interest, including one by Mrs. Flora Annie Steel. The Common Cause for March 24th, as already announced, will give a survey of women's work in agriculture. Kindly order extra numbers early to prevent disappointment and delay.

Help for Refugees in Russia.

Miss Thurstan has just returned from Russia. Before leaving the country, she found time to visit some of the principal towns, and travelled with an inspector right into the interior, almost up to the frontiers of Asia, seeing the various arrangements that are being made for the relief of refugees.

"People here," Miss Thurstan told me, "have no idea of the tremendous displacement of population that there has been in Russia. In addition to the multitudes that fled before the approach of the enemy, many people were removed by the military authorities, and large numbers have been taken into the interior, and even into Siberia.

"In the country districts the refugees are for the most part boarded out with the peasants, who are very kind to them, and most seem fairly happy and comfortable. Some of the old people, however, are very pathetic, especially the old women, who feel wretchedly forlorn, uprooted from their native surroundings and set down in a strange land, sometimes among people whose speech they cannot understand. For the refugees are of many nationalities—Lithuanians, Letts, Poles, Jews. Even among the Russians themselves there are divisions as marked as that between Welsh and Irish."

Innumerable tragedies occurred in the course of this vast eastward move, during which children were lost, children were born, and many people perished by the wayside. The following is one that came under Miss Thurstan's notice:—

On a farm on the border of Russia and Prussia, the wife carried on the work by herself when the man went to the front, and while he was away a baby was born. Then the Germans arrived, and she had to flee, with her two boys, aged seven and eight, two little girls, of three and four, and the baby. In crossing a river, both boys were drowned. She went on with the younger children, but the little girls drank water from a stream, and within two hours of one another they both died. Then the poor mother, in desperation, made for the nearest railway, threw the baby under a train, and attempted to take her own life, too; but a man saw her, and dragged her back to misery. When her husband returned from the front, he found her in an asylum.

Another pathetic case found in the same asylum is that of an artist, a refined, delicate-looking man, with sad, brown eyes. He, too, lived near the frontier, and when the war broke out, he was in the middle of his first exhibition of paintings, into the success of which he had thrown his whole heart and soul. During the invasion of Poland, the Germans occupied the town in which he lived just ten days, and then retreated, and when he returned he found that all his pictures had been burned. His reason left him, and he was taken to the Moscow Asylum, where he is tenderly nursed by Russian Sisters of Charity, who are devoted to him and immensely proud of his talent. Gradually, very gradually, periods of lucidity are coming back, and the doctor hopes that one day he may completely recover. He shows visitors his sketch book with pride; it is full of pencil sketches

of doctors, sisters, patients, and orderlies, all drawn with great skill and spirit. The world may yet hear of this Russian artist.

"In Petrograd," Miss Thurstan explained, "the work of looking after the refugees is organised by various committees, the chief of which is the Municipal Committee, whose main offices are at the Duma. Each nationality has also its own committee, and the Tatiana Committee has as its special function the general registering and housing of refugees. There are large central depôts where the new arrivals are received, registered, given their green refugee books, supplied with free lodgings for a week, disinfected if necessary, clothed, and fed. During that week, they are supposed to arrange their future, to get work, find permanent lodgings, or get relief from the Tatiana Committee, or their own national Committee. Many of the peasants are sent into the interior to work upon the land, being given a free pass to their destination. Some of the young students have given up all their spare time to helping with the refugees, and the girl students have done admirable work in keeping the girls straight and out of temptation."

"Moscow," continued Miss Thurstan, "is the great junction of Pilgrim Ways, and into the city last August the refugees poured like a submerging tidal wave, and camped by thousands in the railway stations. It was only by immediate organisation that these people were saved from literally dying of starvation. The Municipal Committee commandeered at once every available empty building, and put into action every existing agency for the relief of suffering. For instance, up to that time, Countess Boboreuski's organisation had been engaged in working at posts for wounded soldiers; now at once they enlarged their activities, and established large feeding points for the refugees, and every railway station soon had its own feeding point, managed by one or other of the local committees.

"Excellent work was done by the British community in Moscow, in co-operation with the Municipal Committee. They undertook the feeding of refugees at the Alexandrovsky Station, and by the end of the first week after this task had been allotted to them, were feeding 3,000 people daily.

"For want of premises, the feeding has to take place in the open air. Every day, about noon, outside the station yard, there is an expectant row of people waiting for the field kitchen to roll up with its savoury load. When I visited this feeding point, it was a bitter December day, with the thermometer 25 degrees below zero, and a searching northern wind, that penetrated any thickness of clothing. Even my big skeepskin coat might have been made of tissue paper—the cold was like a wild beast waiting to seize one. The refugees, their features pinched and reddened by the cold, and shivering in their scanty garments, stood huddled up together, patiently waiting their dinner. How they could exist at all in this awful cold I could not imagine. Tables are spread out of doors on the snow. Some of the refugees eat their meal there, others bring pitchers and basins, and carry away their portion. When the people at the station have finished, the old horse goes off with the perambulating kitchen to some of the barracks and tenement houses where no provision can be made for feeding them on the premises.

"An excellent piece of work done by the Municipal Committee is the opening of a School for Mothers, which is quite a new experiment for Russia, and was designed as a means of helping to solve the problem of the terrible infant mortality. In other European countries, the infant mortality is higher in the large industrial cities, and lower in the more healthy country districts. In Russia it is the reverse, the infant mortality is lower in the large industrial cities, and higher in the more healthy country districts. This is because the women in the towns have more education, and know better how to bring up their children than the ignorant peasants, who still practise all kinds of superstitious horrors on their unfortunate babies.

"The School for Mothers is a resident home for forty refugee mothers, where they are carefully taught the best way of rearing infants, how to bath, feed, dress, and weigh their children, and where the great art of cleanliness is laboriously instilled into them.

"In Kiev, one of the most interesting visits we paid was to the charming hospital that has been arranged there for refugee children. Everything here is beautifully white and clean, and pure; the walls, the floors, the sisters' dresses are all white, and even the stray visitor has to put on a white overall. It was a joy to see half-a-dozen convalescent boys eating their dinner with great relish, and a fine dinner too—minced cutlet, fried a delicate golden brown, and creamy mashed potatoes, followed by beautiful pink translucent Kiesel, a sweet dish made of potato flour and cranberry juice, of which all Russian children are very fond. It is also easily digested, which is very important, as many of these half-starved children suffer from digestive troubles, and have to be very carefully fed. Down in the basement of this hospital, 'a little drain of milk' depôt is being arranged, so that the children who go out and who still require special diet are able to obtain it."

DINNER-TIME.

"At Kazan the students have undertaken the work of helping with the refugees, and have established a simply splendid model colony, on the Volga, for between four hundred and five hundred people. Ten students live in the colony, in a little hut, furnished with nothing but absolute necessaries; the plank beds have one grey blanket each and no pillows, the boys being so tired after their day's work, that, as they told me, they could 'sleep upon their fists.' We had supper with them one evening, sharing just their ordinary meal of bread and tea, and a very merry party it was, a frivolous professor making us laugh by his valiant attempts to speak English. Among other activities, the students have started a little hospital for children with measles in the colony. There is scope for all sorts of endeavour, and they expressed a keen wish that the British women would come down and work with them. There is a great need for trained workers, and though some money could be raised locally, it is still uncertain whether we should be able to take on this further responsibility."

M. M.

The Health of the Nation.

The report of the Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases, just published, reveals the terrible extent to which the health of the nation is being undermined by these diseases, and puts forward an urgent plea for taking measures at once for checking their ravages. It is pointed out that at the present time there is a special danger. "All experience," says the report, "shows that after a war an excessive incidence of disease is certain to occur, even in districts previously free. In order to meet present and future conditions, it is essential to make provision, and no time should be lost."

It is estimated by the Commission that at least ten per cent. of the city population is infected by syphilis, and a much larger proportion with less aggravated forms of contagious diseases.

The number of deaths per million due to syphilis shows, indeed, a decrease between 1875 and 1911, but Dr. Stevenson in his memorandum points out that "the worthlessness of the returns as an absolute statement of the number of deaths from venereal diseases scarcely requires to be demonstrated," and the Commission expresses a doubt as to whether there has been any reduction in the mortality justly attributable to syphilis of recent years. "Not only," says the report, "are deaths recognised as due to this cause not so certified, from the fear of hurting the susceptibilities of relatives, but large numbers of deaths are ascribed to other diseases now known or beginning to be known as caused by venereal disease. For example, among other diseases, locomotor ataxy and general paralysis are not known to the public as exclusively syphilitic in origin, and are therefore certified without reluctance . . . and infant deaths returned under 'congenital debility' and other headings are largely due to syphilis. That the Registrar-General's returns provide no evidence of a diminution of venereal disease is shown by the fact that the apparent decline in the death rate of syphilis is not accompanied by a general fall in the incidence of the closely associated diseases."

In the medical organisations of the Army and Navy, facilities for early diagnosis and treatment of gonorrhœa and syphilis are better developed than they are for the rest of the community, and there has been a decrease in venereal disease of recent years, except for a marked rise after the South African War. In the population generally—especially the less well-to-do classes—the lack of such facilities "undoubtedly accounts," says the report, "for a large amount of venereal diseases, and especially syphilis, which, not being recognised at an early stage, is inadequately treated, or entirely neglected." The Commission, therefore, lays great stress on the urgent need for making provision for diagnosis and treatment which shall be accessible to everyone.

It is recommended that County and Borough Councils should undertake definite schemes for treatment in their own areas. Witnesses agreed almost unanimously that special centres for treatment of these diseases would fail in their purpose, and that the best method was to use special wards in general hospitals, and evening clinics in connection with the out-patient departments. Free provision of remedies to practitioners by the Local Government Board is also recommended, and it is pointed out that, under the Public Health Act, the Board has power to make this provision.

Notification.

Notification of venereal diseases was advocated by some witnesses, but the Commission concluded that medical practitioners would not be willing to undertake this duty, and that compulsory notification would actually do harm by deterring sufferers from seeking treatment. They consider, however, that, though it is not at present practicable to impose upon medical practitioners the obligation of notifying these diseases, it is their duty to give warning to persons vitally interested in cases where immediate danger threatens to individuals or the public.

Compulsory Detention.

Compulsory detention of persons known to be infectious is also considered not practicable at present, as such restrictions might work unequally, compulsion being applied to those who had in some way brought themselves under restraint, while others, equally dangerous, would escape. The Commission, however, endorses the recommendation of the Poor Law Commission that in Poor Law infirmaries, "subject to certain safeguards against abuse, the public assistance authority should have power to detain cases of venereal disease, when medically certified to be a danger to others," evidence showing the widespread suffering for which these diseases are responsible among the poor; over-crowded and insanitary dwellings indirectly contributing to the spread of the disease.

Disqualification for Marriage.

While of opinion that it is impossible at present to organise a satisfactory method of "certification of fitness for marriage," such as is advocated in some quarters, the Commission recommend that a communication made *bonâ fide* to a parent, guardian, or other person directly interested in the welfare of a woman or a man, with the object of preventing or delaying a marriage with a person who is in an infectious state, should be deemed a privileged communication. Venereal disease should also be regarded as a ground for nullity of marriage. "We think it most important that it should be laid down by law that the presence of venereal disease in an infectious state constitutes incapacity for marriage, whether or not the presence of the disease is known. We regard this question as one affecting not only the married persons themselves, but also the public welfare in respect of the birth rate and death rate, and the effects of congenital disease on the health and happiness of the offspring."

Education of the Public.

The Report lays much stress on the education of the public and the raising of the moral standard of the whole nation. "It is, in our opinion, absolutely necessary that the public should have fuller knowledge of the grave evils that exist among us and their effect upon the national life, present and future. At the same time, we believe that instruction and warning should be given to the young. . . . If venereal diseases are to be stamped out, it will be necessary not only to provide the medical means of combating them, but to raise the moral standards and practice of the community as a whole."

Women on the Land.

At the meeting held on Monday at Grosvenor House to inaugurate the Women's National Land Corps,* the Duke of Marlborough, who presided, said that women were proving themselves willing and ready to be trained for work on the land. It was their duty as men to tell the farmers that they must employ more women, and to see that their wages were adequate. Men were leaving the soil to join the Army and Navy, but the supply of milk, butter, eggs, and cheese must be kept up, the first mentioned in connection with infant mortality, was most important. He himself was one of the largest farmers in England, and he had not hesitated, but had utilised the labour of women, boys, and aged men. If he could do this, others could follow. The value of the land depended on the value of the produce got off it. The Secretary of State for War had rightly said that it was the duty of the nation to use its utmost energy in production, and the utmost economy in consumption.

Mr. Walter Long said he had been connected with agriculture for forty years, and knew of few duties that women could not perform on the land if they cared to undertake them. Women used to work in the fields years ago, until it became the fashion to preach to them that their duty was in their homes and it was more in accord with progress for them to keep to those duties. This cannot be broken down in a moment, but must be overcome by degrees. Farmers were always slow to move, but it was not for them to criticise the fact that women were ready to help on the land; it was for them to be grateful.

Our need is as great as if the enemy were at our gates, as it is at Verdun. What are the women in France doing? During the last autumn he (the speaker) had been in France, and was deeply impressed by what he saw there; magnificent crops being gathered in by women, children, and old men, crops that they had been responsible in raising, and all the important work being well and conscientiously done by the women. He had seen women working in the fields in the shell area, with the utmost unconcern, as if the enemy were hundreds of miles away. We ought to show our Allies that we are prepared to do our share to keep up our food supplies and our export trade. This is not merely a war of soldiers. People were always apt to look at war through military glasses—"if you've enough soldiers" all is done. The nation must face the need of a maximum of output, and to enable us to provide the money to pay our way, the women must come forward and do their part. The end of the war could only be achieved by our throwing, not only our physical strength, but our souls into protecting our great heritage, and handing it down unfettered to our children's children.

* 50, Upper Baker Street.

Mrs. W. ROLAND WILKINS gave details of the work of the new corps. It had been formed, she said, to speed up recruiting of all classes of women for work on the land, so as to ensure the maintenance of the home-grown food supply. The corps had been asked by the Government to concentrate on recruiting women in urban areas for training as forewomen. Women of all classes were to be enrolled. Some members would act as forewomen of detachments, others would speak at meetings, there would be organisers, and a national register would be kept of women available for work. An appeal was made to educated women to come forward for short courses of training which were being organised by the Women's Farm and Garden Union, 45, Queen Anne's Chambers, Tothill Street.

THE NATIONAL LAND COUNCIL.

On Wednesday a very successful meeting was held at the Kensington Town Hall, under the auspices of the National Land Council, when several speakers explained "why 400,000 women must help the country by work on the land." The Mayor of Kensington presided, and the speakers were Mr. H. J. Mackinder, M.P. (late Principal of Agriculture, Reading College), Sir William Grey-Wilson, K.C.M.G., Miss Margaret Milne Farquharson, M.A., Lady Parsons, and Mrs. Watson Kennedy.

Reviews of Books.

In THE FORTNIGHTLY REVIEW for March there is an article by Mr. J. M. Kennedy on "The Finances of the Belligerents," which gives a glimpse into some mysterious phases of Germany's finance, and more particularly into the sensational drop of German credit last November. It had been confidently asserted by the Germans that they could dispense with imports from over-seas, and that in consequence the rate of exchange against them (about 14 per cent.) would remain steady till the end of the war. And steady it did remain, till October last. The Germans had looked forward hopefully to supplies from Bulgaria, Turkey, and Asia Minor. The "supplies" proved very disappointing in quantity, but they had to be paid for. For the first time, German "paper" appeared in the international markets, and German credit went down with a run. The exchange rate in New York went up from 14 to 26, at Amsterdam from 8 to 33. About the same time frantic efforts were being made by the German Government to get gold from any source; all sorts of trinkets and ornaments were accepted by the Reichsbank so as to increase a gold reserve which lags further and further behind the paper money put into circulation; and it is this growing disproportion, quite as much as the almost complete stoppage of German exports, which accounts for the decline of Germany's credit. Theoretically, internal debts can be met by an unlimited supply of paper money; but when there is no means of meeting the paper money, creditors outside Germany are very averse from accepting it. Another article deals with the excessive profits made on freights, so that a single voyage sometimes will pay for the cost of the vessel on a pre-war basis ("The Shipping Scandal," by "*Nauticus*") and points out that this, among all industries cries out for co-ordination and Government control. Dr. Courtney's concluding article on "Aristophanes the Pacifist," sketches the appallingly tragic times in which *Lysistrata* was written.

THE ROUND TABLE (Macmillan) contains, as usual, a number of articles which no student of contemporary politics and social movements can afford to leave unread. The first article on "Prussianism *versus* Commonwealth" draws the moral that "a Commonwealth can only survive if the sense of justice, and the spirit of service are high among its citizens. The principle of its life is the Christian spirit of devotion to duty and the active service of the rest of the community. Where that fails, and self-seeking takes its place, the commonwealth itself will also fail, and first chaos and then a Prussian autocracy based upon force will take its place." The subject of the Commonwealth and foreign policy is further developed in "Two Views of International Relations." Two articles of special interest to readers of THE COMMON CAUSE are on "Production in Peace and War," and another upon "The Problem of Women in Industry." It is impossible, in the small available space, to give more than a summary of part only of an article of extraordinary interest, which we commend to the careful attention of our readers. The writer discusses the double standard of pay for men and women, and after reviewing the commonly-given familiar reasons for differentiating between the wages paid to women and men, considers that, in a large measure, the responsibility rests with working men and the trade unions if they continue to preserve the dangerous policy of dividing the two labour movements and trying to frame a separate policy for each. Among the working-classes themselves it has been traditional that "a skilled job is a man's job, while an unskilled is a woman's or lad's job"; and to this tradition the men cling more closely, because of a misgiving that after all the women may prove themselves only too efficient, and displace them at lower wages.

Yet the double standard is reacting unfavourably upon both men and women. "It is bad for the men," not only "because it exposes them to the competition of cheap labour, but because it turns them into a relatively privileged class, and creates a spirit of ascendancy which tends to corrode the whole individual structure." It is bad for the women "because it is destructive to their self-respect," and "by isolating tends to embitter them, and to drive them into an attitude of antagonism to men," and no successes achieved in industry could make up for the loss involved by such antagonism. It is bad for the craft or profession, notably, for instance, for the "legal profession, which, by its exclusiveness deprives the nation of some of the best legal acumen in the country." And lastly it is bad for the community. "If men deny their protection and comradeship to women in industry, the occupations left over to women will inevitably involve an expense to the nation. The used-up worker comes upon the Poor Law, and the State in the end steps in to make up for the deficiency of wages that ought to have been paid; and so, by a vicious circle, "the community subsidises just that class of employers who least deserve to be subsidised." "In reality," concludes the writer, "the interest of the women-workers is the same as that of the men, and their joint interest is the same as that of the community."

THE ENGLISHWOMAN this month contains three articles dealing with women in munition works. The editorial on "Munition Workers' Hours," maintains that it is undesirable to limit the hours of women unless the hours of men are also limited, as such restrictions may handicap them "by making it impossible for them directly to replace men, and very difficult for them to obtain skilled work except in factories mainly or entirely staffed by women." If, it is pointed out, "women do not work men's hours, and the factory employing them as substitutes consequently needs reorganisation, they cannot, strictly speaking, be said to do men's work, and they will lose the benefit of the minimum wage." This question of wages the women themselves naturally consider even more essential to their well-being than that of hours.

The woman worker, while grateful for all such arrangements for her comfort, is well aware that upon her scale of wages depend her food and lodging away from her work, her freedom from anxiety. . . . Upon the earning of a sufficient wage depends the possibility of paying for services such as laundry, housework, and mending, which she must otherwise undertake in her scant leisure, and the possibility of affording tram or 'bus fares, without which she must add miles of walking to her daily exertions. The 'Memorandum on Employment of Women' says absolutely nothing as to the influence of an adequate wage upon the workers' well-being, though the companion report on the 'Hours of Work' lays stress on the fact that 'the increased pay and the better food that workers have been able to enjoy in consequence have helped to counteract the effect of long hours.'"

The writer does not consider that it has been proved that "women's health has been more endangered or the race more certainly put in jeopardy by working during the marginal hours between sixty and sixty-five than is the health of men," and urges that final judgment in this matter should be reserved until the inquiries (at present in progress) with regard to the effect of hours on men's health is concluded.

Another writer gives an account of a "week ender's" experience in "Shop 60, England," and Mrs. Tennyson Jesse gives a very interesting account of a visit to the famous Renault works outside Paris. Other articles are "Sancta Simplicitas" by G. H. Powell, dealing with the German character, "With the Serbian Retreat" by Gertrude Pares, "A Women's Training Colony" by L. Hay-Cooper, "Institution Management" by H. Reynard, "The Lace Makers of Belgium" by E. Mitford.

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The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war.

Political Work.

Resolution passed at the Annual Council Meeting of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 1916:—

That this Council reaffirms its continued devotion to the object for which the National Union was formed, namely, to obtain the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men, and believes that the experiences of the war have demonstrated anew that the claim of women to citizenship is abundantly justified. It further pledges itself to work whenever and wherever there is an opportunity to ensure that a measure extending the Parliamentary Franchise to women shall be placed on the Statute Book at the earliest possible moment.

At the present time the National Union is busy with many pieces of work: women's interests work, maternity work, training, hospitals and relief, and its demand for a Government measure of Women's Suffrage is, for the time being, suspended. All the work it does is clearly useful to the State, clearly useful to women, and clearly what the members of the societies of the Union wish to do. We have put our organisation at the service of the nation because, like all citizens, we wish to do whatever we can that will be useful. It is, however, well to consider this work that we are doing in relation to the demand for Women's Suffrage and its political prospects in the future.

The first consideration, which is almost too obvious to need repetition, is that the political prospects of any measure depend upon the backing it has in the country. Party politics come and go, wire-pulling, influence, and jobbery go through their familiar stages, but in the end (perhaps in spite of our parliamentary machinery, or perhaps because of it), what the people of this country really want the people of this country really get. And if the work that the societies of the National Union are doing now increases the popular backing there is likely to be for a measure of Women's Suffrage, that work, besides being of direct value to the community now, will be useful to the political prospects of our cause in the future.

That the work we do has this effect no one who is doing it will deny. We have but to open our eyes to see how prejudice and obstinacy are melting away, and a very little pointing of the moral turns this attitude into genuine support for Women's Suffrage.

The second consideration is more difficult: Are we or are we not taking the right steps to turn that popular support into a concrete measure? Are we or are we not so directing our machinery that it will tell effectively for the end we have in view? Ought we to continue to suspend our ordinary political work and our demand for a Government measure of Women's Suffrage?

It is not hard to see that the political future will be full of difficulty, and even now the rumours are in the air. If we have defeated the old dragon of prejudice we shall still have the young dragons of jealousy and fear in our path. We shall have new cleavages of parties and new economic troubles; we shall have new expediencies to consider, and new tricks to escape. We know, for example, that this Parliament can hardly end without passing a new Registration Bill, and that that Bill can hardly fail to shorten the residential qualification, and so enlarge the male electorate; we know that actual changes in the basis of the franchise for men are possible, and that the troubles of the Plural Voting Bill are not yet ended. All this is plain to see. Can we do nothing now to arm us for the coming struggle? There is one course open to us, which we might adopt, but it is a course we have not chosen. It is to resume now our political agitation, to petition the Government, and to demand from it pledges, promises, or actions, to renew our determined action, organise public

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meetings, and demand once more an immediate Government measure of Women's Suffrage. To do this would perhaps be just possible. Here, in England, if we try hard, we can forget that the world is at war. At all times, perhaps more than ever now, there is much to criticise in our Government, and much that we would gladly change. Our grievances cry out to us, and stare us in the face, and we could, of course, raise again the war cries of our cause. No doubt our deputations would be refused, and our politicians made angry, but we are used to that, and it would not greatly disturb us. It is a long time since the probable displeasure of our rulers controlled us, and we have rejected this course, not because we are afraid, and not because we do not see our dangers, but because we know that this way of meeting them would be wrong and useless. Those who claim citizenship are wise if they behave as good citizens. In normal times we believe that good citizenship lies in political agitation, but now it is to be sought in other ways, for our country needs all the unity and all the strength that lie within it. But, nevertheless, we do not for one moment abandon our claim that the State needs the full service of its women; and if this claim is endangered we will rise to defeat it. Meanwhile, by the work that we are doing now, we are indeed arming ourselves against the dangers of the future. We cannot by any effort prevent the problems from coming, and we can do little to solve them before we know in what form and in what order they will arise; but we can work to build up for our own movement the backing of public assent upon which all political prospects ultimately depend. This is work that can be done now, alongside of, and sometimes because of the service we are giving to our country. Propaganda is not obstructive, and it is not difficult. This work lies all about each one of us. If we do it well, the dragons of the future must fall; for what the people of this country really want the people of this country will really get.

Ray Strachey.

Economy in France and England.

By Mme. M. G. Rudler,
Présidente du Club Français de l'Université de Londres.

Heating and Lighting.

The gas company is much better organised in London than in Paris; they supply, even for hire, far better and more varied apparatus. Gas-stoves can, therefore, be installed in all the rooms that are little used, unless, indeed, the cost of gas should rise too high. In many houses the custom of laying the fires in the morning, and lighting them only when required, has sprung up. Breakfast, too, is sometimes prepared on the gas-ring, and the kitchen fire lit only in time for lunch or dinner. Economical cooks mix coke with coal, the fire burns better than if coal alone is used, and it costs less and makes less soot.

The economy of lighting also has to be considered. Formerly we used to see the lights blazing away in hall, sitting-rooms, and basement all the evening long. But now the hall is dark, and except for the waste going on below stairs, there would be no light at all save in rooms where people are sitting. In France the hall is usually lit by a little benzole lamp ("motor oil"), which gives a dim illumination, and can be taken up and carried about the house. This kind of lamp is hardly known in London.

Food.

I am supposing that, by some miracle, the mistress of the house has obtained from her servants all the economies compatible with their calling; but there remain a few reforms which English customs have hitherto prohibited.

In France, the cook buys the provisions; in England the tradesmen call for orders and deliver the goods. There are drawbacks to either system, but if you keep to the English way, you must insist (1) that all orders must be given in writing (keep a book for the purpose, or write down the bill-of-fare every day, and the orders underneath); (2) that everything sold by weight should have the weight checked on delivery; and (3) that everything should be paid for in ready money, or regularly every week, after careful checking of the books, so that errors can be detected and set right in time.

The habit once formed of weighing, of choosing, and superintending everything, you will find a marked improvement in your budget.

Simplicity in Cookery.

But there still remains the fact that English cookery is more expensive than French, and is no better. When English cooks watch ours at work, they are always surprised at the simplicity of our cookery. In cooking, as in everything else, English servants think that if a thing is more expensive and more complicated, it must necessarily be superior.

In the matter of puddings alone, it would take a sheet of foolscap to write out a list of ingredients. The results are: (1) That a British cook must have all these things under her hands (which makes it impossible to see that she uses them properly); and (2) That in the hands of an inexperienced cook, who lacks a cook's instinct, the food takes the most extraordinary flavours, as she lays on this or that with a heavy hand. Our sweets and pastries seldom contain a large number of varied ingredients (apart from milk, flour, eggs, and butter); very often the only flavouring is a trace of vanilla, or a squeeze of lemon, and it must be owned that our sweets are none the worse for this, for they are usually very much liked by English critics.

Table Luxury.

Lastly, if we can only admire frankly the exquisite taste and luxury displayed in the setting of the English dinner table; while the profusion of flowers and table glass and plate is a joy to the eyes, the lavish abundance of dishes, the pies, jellies, cold meats, or preserves and sweets that load the luncheon or breakfast table raise uneasy questionings about economic principles. Here, again, is an opportunity for resolutely cutting down the quantity of food put upon the table, often as much from ostentation as from taste.

Dress.

On the matter of clothes I have but little to say. French women are certainly very industrious, and have a thousand clever ways of making new clothes out of old, and adapting them to the fashion of the day. In my opinion, if Englishwomen take less trouble over their clothes, they are generally as well dressed, and spend no more. It must be admitted that Frenchwomen of small means do more mending, and make their things last longer. And this raises another question: Ought we to buy new clothes, as in normal times, to keep the dressmakers employed, or should we spend less? I think we should spend less. The trouble just now is not want of work, but quite otherwise. Servants are scarcer than ever; so are workwomen, and all the good workers are wanted for munition factories. We need not scruple now to wear out-of-date frocks and to do our own mending. There are Frenchwomen who at this moment take a sort of pride in wearing the plainest possible dress, and in doing the household work of their little ménage every morning, in a nurse's blouse and kerchief.

Conclusion.

We must make the most of our resources if our homes and our social duties are not to suffer while the war lasts. We can do so: (1) by cutting down entirely all the expenditure on display which has become such a tyrannous burden in England, and more particularly by reducing the number of servants to the lowest possible limit; (2) by going carefully through the house, to find out and stop all the sources of waste which I have described. People who are obliged to do without servants altogether, either temporarily or permanently, will find economy much easier. If housework proves a bewildering novelty to them, I should like to recommend (beside "Mrs. Beeton") an excellent little book by Lady Frazer, called *First Aid to the Servantless* (1s., Heffer, Cambridge); and a French weekly paper, *La Mode Pratique* (Hachette), gave a whole series of articles last year on the ways in which an educated woman may cook and do the work of her home, without giving up the interests or refinements of culture.

I have already seen all these domestic reforms carried out in many an English home. The most cultivated women were the first to adopt them, for they have no need to "study appearances" in order to win esteem. Progress will be made by leaps and bounds, for there is no people more capable of adapting their way of living to their convictions than the British. The immense efforts made by Great Britain to succour and to help, shine out radiantly all through Europe, showing what great sacrifices are being made in numbers of families.

Postscript.

The following postscript to Madame Rudler's article is added by Madame De Witt-Schlumberger, Présidente de l'Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes :—

I should like to add to the article written by my friend, Mme. Rudler, a word to ladies who are mistresses of large establishments, or have a large number of servants.

For it is just in this class of society that the differences between French and English organisation are greatest.

English servants, in some families, belong to what I may call two quite separate ranks, and this increases their number and the household expenses in a way which is hardly known in France. To the first rank belong what are called the upper servants—housekeeper, cook, head housemaid, and butler. The second rank is made up of housemaids, footmen, kitchen maids, and the like. They not only do the real work of the house, but wait upon the "upper servants."

I still remember the amazement, almost the tinge of envy, shown by my English friends as they learned that in France the mistress of a house is in direct communication with her servants, and has not to act through the medium of the imposing upper servants, with whom Frenchwomen generally dispense. The housekeeper is a rare bird in private houses in France. "Why do you not dismiss your upper servants?" we have sometimes asked. "It would not be possible," they answered, rather sadly.

Perhaps the war has taught a certain number of women highly placed in society, that many changes are possible, and that now is the time to profit by the opportunity of shaking off the chains of luxury and convention.

"Common Cause" Scholarships for Commercial Chemistry.

Never before has there been so marked a disposition to throw posts open to qualified women. The registrar of the Federation of University Women reports that their biggest demand is in chemistry, for manufacturers are beginning to realise that without expert chemical aid, they will not be able to hold their own in the markets of the world after the war, nor to keep down expenses during the war while maintaining their position and the national export trade, on which we all depend. So posts are gradually being thrown open to educated women ; but it rests with them to qualify themselves to fill the more important positions, from which they have been hitherto excluded.

For the Nation is Going to Need all its Brain Power.

A woman may possess not only a scientific degree, but ability to do far more important work than that usually assigned to her, and yet lack the special technical preparation which is absolutely necessary for entering commercial chemistry and taking a responsible position. Will our readers help to found two scholarships of £50 each, to give two women science-students this further special training for one year?

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We acknowledge below donations received from subscribers, whom we thank very cordially for their prompt and generous response. One friend of The Common Cause Scholarship Fund writes, promising to give £2, on condition that four others will do the same. One of the four has already come forward, and now we hope to hear that the remaining three will help. Another kind friend, who sends £1, writes : "the matter is of great importance for the future, and I hope the effort will be very successful." We have also received the following letter from the Secretary of the Purley Society :—

"At the Committee Meeting of this Society held on Friday last, it was unanimously decided that a small donation should be sent to your Scholarship Fund. I am therefore enclosing 10s. as a donation from the Purley Society of the N.U.W.S.S., at the same time expressing the gratification of the Committee that The Common Cause has inaugurated the movement, and wishing it every success."

Cheques and postal orders (which should be crossed) should be made payable to the Hon. Treasurer "Common Cause" Scholarship Fund, and addressed to the Hon. Treasurer, The Common Cause Office, 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

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List of Societies.

A revised list of Societies and Federations will be published in The Common Cause of March 24th. The list is being carefully corrected, and Secretaries are asked to notify the Head Office *before Thursday, March 16th*, of any recent changes of address.

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Mrs. D. A. Wilson	2	0	0
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A large quantity of all kinds of warm clothing has been received during the last six weeks, and is being packed to go out with our next consignment to Russia.

The Agent-General of Queensland has given us a generous grant of stores, which will greatly lessen our expenses in this direction. We have also received through Mrs. Usher, Women's Emergency Corps, a grant of warm babies' clothes, sent from the women of Queensland, to England for the use of those of our Allies suffering from the war. A case of clothing through the High Commissioner for New Zealand, a gift from New Zealand women, has also been received for the same purpose.

Several of our Suffrage Societies have started working parties, and have sent in larger or smaller quantities of clothing, according to their capability. From Liverpool we have received a splendid lot of clothes, all packed in sacks ready for baling.

The Frimley, Camberley, and York Town War Work Depôt, which has all-day work parties twice a week, has sent us most generous contributions.

The ladies of Biddenham, Kent, per Mrs. Leslie Jones, though they have only been working for one month, have already sent us a collection of 365 articles, including cot blankets and sheets. Bournemouth, Penmaenmawr, Reigate, Winchester, Holt, Leicester, Oxford, Tiverton and Shipley and Bailden have all sent most useful parcels.

(*Continued on page* 642.)

progress

WHEN the blazing fire was made in the open air with logs laboriously hewn it comforted man, but there was much smoke and most of the heat was wasted.

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Miss Gemmel and Nurse Clelland	1	0	0
Employees of Sir Michael Nairn & Co., Ltd., "The Scottish Linoleum," "Scottish Floorcloth," and "St. Mary's Canvas Works" ...	13	8	0
Per Miss Florence R. Raeburn (collected at Miss Stewart's "At Home," towards 2nd year of "Newington" Bed, Royaumont): Mrs. Bartholomew (£10), Miss Stewart (£5 4s.), Miss Raeburn (£1), Miss Flor Raeburn (£1 1s.), Mrs. Gunn (10s.), Small sums (£1 15s.)	19	10	0
Timothy Warren, Esq.	5	0	6
Per Mrs. Bentinck: Miss Ramsden, Christiania, Norway (Royaumont)	10	10	0
Goole W.S.S., per Miss Matthews, Hon. Treas.: Proceeds of two Lectures by the Rev. J. S. Cripps	1	15	6
Mrs. Aldworth, Kuala Lumpor, Fed. Malay States	4	0	0
Miss Isabella Blackie (for 2nd year, "Isabella" Bed) ...		5	0
Mrs. Melville (towards 2nd year, "Isabella" Bed) ...	1	0	0
*Per Mrs. Scott (further towards "Morningside" Bed)		5	0
Miss Isabella Dickson (towards 2nd year, "Isabella" Bed)		7	6
Miss Isabella Walker (towards 2nd year, "Isabella" Bed)		5	0
*Per Miss M. J. Douglas: Miss Brown (Serbians)	1	0	0
Per Mrs. Thomson: From "Four Isabellas" (towards 2nd year, "Isabella" Bed)		4	0
Mrs. Monro (towards "Isabella" Bed)	1	0	0
Per Lady Dunbar: From "Three Isabellas" (for "Isabella" Bed)		7	6
Miss Isabella Wilson (towards "Isabella" Bed)		5	0
Miss Grierson (towards "Isabella" Bed)		10	0
*Per Miss Bury: Employees of Messrs. A. Blyth & Co., Hawklymuir Factory, Kirkcaldy	3	10	0
*Per Mrs. Todd, Preston W.S.S.: Collected by Employees of Samuel Slater, Esq., Tennyson Road, Preston (£1 10s.), Mrs. Pearson (10s.)	2	0	0
Skelmorlie Social and Debating Society, per R. H. Hamilton, Esq., Hon. Treas.: Collected at Lecture	6	7	8
Lanarkshire Tramways Co., Ltd., Motherwell: Collected from Employees, voted from the Mess Room Fund ...	3	5	0
Miss E. M. Hiley		5	0
Atlas Loco. Works War Relief Fund, per Angus Rew, Esq., Secretary	5	5	0
Mrs. McGregor	10	0	0
Mrs. Weir (5s.), from a Friend (2s.)		7	0
*Per Dr. Mary Phillips: Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rintoul (to name "Robert, Andrew, and Peter" Bed)	50	0	0
*Per Miss Mabel Howell: Mrs. T. J. Williams (2s. 6d.), Miss Helen C. Cooper (10s.), Miss Lilian B. Cooper (10s.) (Serbians, Corsica)	1	2	6
Mrs. Ellingsen (Blankets for for Salonika)	2	0	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: *Employees of Messrs. Glenfield & Kennedy (£13 6s. 7d.), *Employees of Messrs. Boyd & Forrest, Kilmarnock (£2 9s. 5d.), Employees of Messrs. M. Muir & Co., Builders, Kilmarnock (£1 1s. 9d.)	16	17	9
*Per Miss Pares: Collected at Meeting for the School for Mothers, organised by Miss Harrison	2	7	8
*"West Kilbride" (Serbian Refugees)	1	0	0
Misses Erskine		5	0
Fife Forge Co., Ltd., Employees, Kirkcaldy	3	6	0
Major and Mrs. Paterson ...	1	0	0
Mrs. I. M. Calder (towards "Isabella" Bed, 2nd year)		10	0
Mrs. I. W. Lyster (towards "Isabella" Bed, 2nd year)		1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Chas. S. Dougall	5	5	0
Anon. from some Friends ...		4	0
H. P. Henderson, Esq.	2	2	0
Misses Harvie (General Funds)	10	0	0
*Per Dr. E. Soltau: Collected from Patients in Maltings Farm Sanatorium, Colchester (Serbian Refugees)	1	5	0
*Staff and Pupils of Ladyburn School, Greenock, per John Ireland, Esq., Headmaster ...		17	6
*Pupils of Arbroath High School: Proceeds of Performance of "H.M.S. Pinafore" (to name "Arbroath High School" Bed for 6 months), per D. Drysdale, Esq., Headmaster	25	0	0
Lincoln W.S.S., per Miss F. L. Harrison, Hon. Treas. ...	1	0	0
Greenock "Y" Branch, per Miss Thomson	1	0	0
Miss Isabella C. Boyse (towards "Isabella" Bed, 2nd year)		5	0
*Miss Madeleine K. le Maistre	2	10	0
Benefit Performance of Greek Play, by Miss Dorothea Spinney, per G. H. Scholfield, Esq. (for Serbian Women and Children, Corsica)	91	10	0
*Per Mrs. Wales, Hon. Treas., Wakefield W.S.S.: Mrs. C. W. Fennell		10	6
*Fyvie Agricultural Association, per W. Thomson, Esq. (Serbian Refugees)	10	0	0
Anon. (France)	5	0	0
Miss Isabella McIntosh (towards "Isabella" Bed, 2nd year)		1	0
*Miss Isabella Paterson (towards "Isabella" Bed, 2nd year		10	0
W. T.		10	0
*Alex. Cappies (February donation)	2	0	0
*Per Miss Bury: Miss Gemmell		5	0
Messrs. T. Coulthard & Co., Preston	2	5	5
Abernethy United Prayer Meeting, per Rev. G. McDougall	2	10	0
Lieut.-Col. Lord Lamington ...	1	0	0
Ballinluig B.W.T.A., per Mrs. Macdonald	1	0	0
Miss Brebner	5	0	0
*Domestic Staff of St. Mary's School, Melrose		10	0
Per Miss Turnbull (collected on Card 341, towards "Edith Cavell Memorial Fund"): C. M. K. T. (1s.), Alex. S. White (1s.), M. Paton (2s.), R. Paton (5s), Mary Wallace Seymour (2s.), Miss Orr (5s.), A. M. M. (1s.), D. M. K. (1s.), M. N. (1s.), D. Nicholson (1s.), J. M. (1s.), J. Wallace (2s. 6d.), Miss Mitchell (1s.), J. M. Turnbull (1s.), N. P. S. (2s. 6d.), Jessie B. Wallace (2s.), C. Irvine (2s.), J. B. Duncan (1s.)	1	13	0
Miss Lorna Johnson (for Medical Equipment)	13	0	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: S.G.F.S. Festival and Proceeds of Concert, per Mrs. R. Henderson (£14 3s.), *Employees of Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (£2 12s. 1d.)	16	15	1
	£91,569	9	3½

* Denotes further donation.

The Hon. Treasurer begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping to carry on the work, and will gratefully receive further donations. Cheques should be sent either to the Hon. Secretary, Dr. Elsie Inglis, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock.

Further List of Beds Named.

Name of Bed.	*Donor.*
"France" (Royaumont)	Per Miss Ivens: From Patients and Friends at the Abbaye de Royaumont.
"Allies" (Royaumont)	
"Karen and Edith" (Corsica, 6 months)	Per Miss Bury: Miss Edith Erisson, Leuchars Home, London Hospital, Whitechapel.
"Robert, Andrew, and Peter" (1 year)	Per Dr. Mary Phillips: Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rintoul, Harlaw, St. Andrews.
"Arbroath High School, II." (6 months)	Per D. Drysdale, Esq., Headmaster: Proceeds of Performance of "H.M.S. Pinafore" by Pupils of Arbroath High School.

Twenty-seven of the beds named by Committee of London Units have been sent to "London Ward," Royaumont. Names were given in Hospital Number for November 12th, 1915

Equipment.

The Equipment Secretary would be most grateful if people would refrain from sending face cloths, mufflers, gloves, mittens, knitted rugs, and pillowslips to the Hospitals, as at present we have a large supply of these articles.

GIFTS FOR REFUGEES IN RUSSIA.

(*Continued from page 640.*)

Parcels have been received from the following:—

Mrs. Lowe, Mrs. Kessler, Lady Sturges Jackson, Mrs. Milbank Smith, Miss Whitter, Miss Ashton, Sergeant Harris, Mrs. Wood (bale blankets), Mrs. Bazeley, Mrs. Brook Little, Mrs. Notcutt, Miss Knott, Mrs. Boschmann, Miss Leigh Browne, Mrs. Whitall, Mrs. Methuen, Mrs. Paynter, Mrs. Laurence, The Misses Barmby, Mrs. Kessler, High School for Girls (Burnley), Anon. (Malvern), Miss Kennedy (per Miss Cooke), Mrs. Spencer, Mrs. Green, Miss Hunt, Mrs. Dutton, Miss Greenfield, Mrs. Fry, Miss Willcocks, Miss Phillips, Miss B. Newcombe, Miss D. Bunson Miss Nice, Miss Manley Smith, Mrs. Buckton, Miss Ready and Miss Stainer, High School (Blackburn), Miss Kempthorne, Miss Hale, Mrs. Mylne, Miss Stonex, Miss Knott, Miss Wells, Mrs. Altham, Mrs. Hoggett, Mrs. Woolaston, Mrs. Morris, Miss Ada Mackrill, Miss Carter, Miss W. Cordner, Miss Marett, Mrs. Wood, Miss Greening, Miss Montgomery, Miss Ella Burt, Miss Ridsdale, The Misses Tolson, Miss Rhys.

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

London Society.

The Executive Committee of the London Society for Women's Suffrage invited the delegates who came up to the N.U. Council Meetings in Chelsea to visit their training workshops for oxy-acetylene welding and engineering on the evenings of February 17th and 18th. A considerable number availed themselves of this opportunity of seeing how the untrained woman of to-day becomes expert and invaluable in a field of labour hitherto unexplored by women, and great interest was shown in the blow-pipe and lathe operations carried out in the two workshops. It may be possible for those who were present to interest their friends in the undertaking, and contributions towards the scheme, however small, are gratefully received by the Hon. Treasurer, the Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves, at the office of the London Society for Women's Suffrage, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.

Mrs. Park, who carried out the simple refreshments on the two evenings, is anxious that all those who helped her should know how greatly she appreciated their generous assistance.

Bristol.

The working parties for the Scottish Hospitals and two Mothers' Schools were started again on January 12th. A bale of hospital outfit and men's clothing for the Serbians was sent off on January 10th, and various articles were given to the Bedminster and St. Augustine's Mothers' Schools at Christmas. More workers are needed, and visitors are welcomed.

A sum of money is sent every month to Edinburgh for the Hospitals. Mrs. J. Martin kindly collects 5s. from the Totterdown Branch, and various members of the Committee make the amount up to £1. One lady, Miss Clough, who has left the Executive to become a head gardener during the war, sent a contribution of £3 last month, and another member, Miss Young, has given 10s., part of the proceeds of the sale of a poem which she composed about the war, which was very popular with the soldiers.

The Women's Interests Committee continues to meet at the Suffrage Office, under the chairmanship of Mrs. R. Talbot, and its work is spreading. Though it is composed of delegates from many Societies, they are all Suffrage men and women.

The annual meeting was held at Hamilton's Rooms, on February 22nd. The business meeting took place at 6.30, under the presidency of Mrs. Talbot, when the reports of the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer were read and adopted. The three hon. officers, Mrs. Cross, Mrs. Talbot, and Mrs. Hicks, were re-elected by ballot, also one Executive of twenty-one members. After a short interval for refreshment, a public meeting was held, and the hall was crowded. Mr. W. C. H. Cross took the chair, and explained the present work of the National Union. Dr. McGregor and Miss Pares gave a vivid account of their trek from Serbia.

It is hoped that the Study Circles will be resumed in March, under the leadership of Miss Tanner.

Preston.

A public meeting in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals was held in the Guildhall, Preston, on February 2nd. Alderman Hamilton was in the chair (in the absence of the Mayor), and prophesied a total collapse after the war of the old unreasoning opposition to the enfranchisement of women, who have proved themselves such excellent citizens. Dr. Mary Phillipps delighted the audience of about 400 with her account of the work and with her beautiful lantern views. Mr. Lyon Blease also gave an account of his own return journey through Serbia in the van of the advancing Bulgarians. The total result of the efforts made before and after the meeting to raise funds is not yet known, but £170 has already been received, and collections are being organised by various works and trade union branches, &c., in the neighbourhood, as a very special appeal was made to all employees to add the "Proud Preston" Bed at Royaumont in particular, and the work of the hospitals in general.

Southport.

A Gordon Tartan Day was held in our town on Saturday, 4th inst., when little favours of the Gordon plaid were sold upon various pitches, at cinemas, &c., the result of the effort being about £53. After some small expenses have been deducted, the receipts will be handed over to the Serbian Refugee Hospital in Corsica. This "Day" was a supplement to Dr. Mary Phillip's lecture, held on February 1st, and the Society is delighted that bright weather and a generous public helped to make it a success.

Ascot.

A most successful meeting, organised by the local Suffrage Society (National Union), took place at the Ascot Hospital on the afternoon of March 1st, when there was a large attendance of all classes. The meeting, addressed by Miss Geraldine Cooke, was on behalf of the new Maternity Unit for refugees into Russia. Lady Edwina Lewin presided, and introduced the lecturer in a sympathetic speech. The amount collected for the cause was £14 7s. 8d. The platform was prettily decorated with flowering plants. Votes of thanks to speaker and Chairman were proposed by the Rev. F. La Trobe Bateman and seconded by Lady Susan Dawnay. The singing of the Russian and British National Anthems concluded the proceedings.

Scarborough.

On February 4th a very interesting lantern lecture on the Scottish Women's Hospitals was given in the Central Hall of the Municipal Schools by Miss B. Hunter. The chair was taken by the Mayoress, Miss M. Graham, who introduced the lecturer in a few words of appreciation of the work done by the Scottish Units since the war began. The hall was crowded, much interest being shown by the audience in the various pictures of hospital scenes in France and Serbia which were thrown on the screen. Mrs. Corbet Ashby also spoke, and alluded in moving terms to the N.U. Russian Maternity Unit, now being sent out to Petrograd. A good collection was taken.

The Society was represented at the annual meeting of the N. and E. Riding of Yorkshire Federation, which was held at York on February 3rd, and also sent delegates to the annual Council Meeting in London on February 17th and 18th. The working party continues to meet, and parcels have been sent to the Scottish Women's Hospitals, the Indian Contingent, and the Mayoress's Committee for comforts to the troops.

Bridge of Weir.

On February 21st the Suffrage Society held a public meeting and lantern lecture on the "Scottish Women's Hospitals Abroad," by Dr. M. Phillips. The attendance was good, and the collection amounted to over £8. This was followed by a flag day on the 26th for the Hospitals. The amount collected was £71 3s. 6d. This collection included Brookfield and Mr. Quarrier's Orphan Homes of Scotland. The amount contributed by the "Homes" was £15.

Forthcoming Meetings.

MARCH 10.

Bristol—Lecture by Miss H. Hicks, B.A., on "Why we should Save, and How," at 40, Park Street 7.30
Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home" 4.30
Cardiff—Hall of High School for Girls—Lecture—"Work and Experiences in Calais, Malta, and Serbia"—Dr. Mary Phillips—Chair, The Lady Mayoress—Admission, 1s.—Collection in aid of Polish Maternity Unit

MARCH 11.

Richmond Women's Suffrage Society—A Household Thrift Exhibition by Mrs. Graham Lacey will be held at the County School for Girls, Parkshot Admission, 10 a.m.—8 p.m.

MARCH 13.

Birmingham—St. Wulshare's Mission Motherhood—Mrs. Eric Carter 3.0
Birmingham—Drawing-room Meeting for Polish Maternity Unit—Hostesses, Mrs. George Cadbury and Lady Lodge—At the University—Speaker, Mrs. Fawcett 3.30
Birmingham—St. Mathews Mission Motherhood—Miss Attlee 8.0

MARCH 14.

Birmingham—Stechford—Lantern Lecture on Scottish Women's Hospitals—Dr. Mary Phillips—Chair, Dr. W. T. Lyall
Northfield Institute Motherhood—Miss Bett 3.0
Finchley—Women's Municipal Association, King Edward Hall, Church End—Speaker, Miss Rinder

MARCH 15.

Barnes, Mortlake, East Sheen W.S.S.—Drawing-room Meeting at Leyden House, Mortlake—Miss Petty—Subject, "War Time Cookery"
Nuneaton—Women's Co-operative Hall—Lantern Lecture—Scottish Women's Hospitals—Dr. Mary Phillips—Chair, Dr. Mason

MARCH 16.

Leamington—Town Hall—Lantern Lecture on "Our Work at the Front in France and Serbia"—Dr. Mary Phillips, of the Serbian Unit—The Mayor of Leamington 3.0

MARCH 17.

Norwich—School of Music—Annual Meeting—Chair, Mrs. J. Stuart—Speakers, Mrs. Corbett-Ashby and Representative from Scottish Women's Hospitals

MARCH 23.

Llangollen—Town Hall—Cake Sale, Tea, Loan Exhibition—Proceeds to local Belgian Refugee Fund and Scottish Women's Hospitals

London Units of Scottish Women's Hospital.

MARCH 14th.—A lecture, illustrated with limelight views, will be given, under the auspices of the Brixton Liberal Women's Club, by Miss Hunter, on the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals in France and Serbia, at the Halstead Street School, Robsart Street, Brixton. The Chair will be taken at 8 p.m. by the Rev. R. Dixon, M.D. Admission free.

MARCH 16th.—Mrs. Stitt requests the pleasure of your company at 7, Hardy Road, Westcombe Park—Dr. McGregor on work of Hospitals in Serbia and her experiences in Great Retreat—Chair, H. I. S. Storres, Esq.—R.S.V.P. 4.30

MARCH 17th.—A drawing-room meeting will be held at The Deanery, St. Albans, at 5 p.m. Mrs. Green will give an address on her experiences with the Scottish Hospitals in Serbia during the great retreat.

Working Parties.

Birkenhead—Theosophical Society's Rooms, 48a, Hamilton Street—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals 2nd and 4th Monday in the month, 2.0
Blackheath and Greenwich Sewing Party for Scottish Women's Hospital—at 8, Shooter's Hill Road—Hostess, Mrs. Monk Every Tuesday, 2.0—6.0
Bolton—Suffrage Shop, Bradshawgate—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Monday, 2.30, and every Thursday at 8.0
Bournemouth—At 167, Old Christchurch Road—for the Polish Refugees Maternity Unit Every Monday, 3.0—6.0
Bridlington—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Wednesday, 3.0—6.0
Bristol—Working Party at 40, Park Street 3.0 p.m.
Buxton—At Collinson's Café—Sewing Meeting for Manchester and District Field Hospital—Visitors invited Every Thursday, 2.30
Chiswick and Bedford Park—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Thursday, 3 to 6 p.m.
Croydon—Working Party every Monday for Serbian Unit, at Walden, Stanhope Road. This address is the depôt for the Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation, where all work and appliances can be sent.
Eastbourne—At the Club, 134, Terminus Road—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Hospitals in France and Serbia Every Monday, 2.30—4.30
Farnham—At Bourne Lodge—Working Party for the Russian Maternity Unit On Thursday, at 2.45—4.15 p.m.
Guildford and District—Working Party for Scottish Women's Hospitals and Russian Maternity Unit, at the Office, 14, Mount Street Fridays, 3.0—6.0
Highgate—At 26, West Hill—Hostess, Mrs. Garnett—Members and friends cordially invited every 3rd Friday 3.0—5.0
Huddersfield—Sewing Meetings will be held at the Office, 41 Spring Street Every Tuesday, 2.30
Paddington—22, Kildare Terrace, Westbourne Grove (by kind permission of Mrs. Barstow)—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every day, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Redhill—At Miss Woodward's, 10, Fengates Road—Sewing Party Every Wednesday, 2.15
Reigate—For N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals and Maternity Unit for Polish Refugees—February 28th and alternate Mondays 2.30
Scarborough—6, Falconer Chambers—Working Party Every Tuesday, 2.45
Shipley and Baildon—Ladies' Parlour of Saltaire Congregational Church School—Sewing Meeting Every Thursday, 2.30
Solihull—Church House—Working Party for making comforts for the Italian troops Every Monday, 3.0
South Kensington—Belgian Hostel, 1, Argyll Road—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Tuesday and Friday, 2 to 4.30
Wakefield—St. John's Institute—Sewing Party Every Wednesday, 2.30—6.0
Warwick and Leamington—35, Warwick Street, Leamington—Working Party to make Sand Bags Every Tuesday and Friday, 2.30
Hospital Garments Every Wednesday, 2.30
Hastings—At the Suffrage Club—A Working Party for Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Tuesday, 2.30—6.0

Women Writers' League.

Under the auspices of the Women Writers' League, Mrs. Fawcett will speak on "The Status of Women after the War," in the Caxton Hall. Admission free; a few reserved seats at 1s. Tea, 1s. March 28th, 5 p.m.

The Trustees of the Chadwick Public Lectures have arranged a course of lectures on "The Domestic Arterial System," by Dr. James Porter, at the Household and Social Science Department, King's College for Women, Campden Hill Road, Kensington, on Wednesdays, March 15th, March 22nd, and March 29th, at 3 p.m. The subjects will be: "Drains and Drainage," "Water Supply," "Heating and Light." These lectures will be of practical value to women householders, many of whom are aware of a gap in their understanding of the complicated internal arrangements of the modern home. As the late Sir Edwin Chadwick was one of the earliest advocates of women's political and economic rights, it is particularly appropriate that the scope of the free public lectures provided under his bequest should now be extended so as to include questions affecting the interests of women householders.

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PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

Ten words, 9d. per insertion; every additional ten words, 6d. per insertion. All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 14, Great Smith-st., Westminster, and must be received not later than first post Wednesday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

MEMORIAL HALL, MANCHESTER, Tuesday, March 21st, at 7.30 p.m., Unfamiliar Works for one and two Pianofortes, by HOPE SQUIRE and FRANK MERRICK. Tickets, 5s. (reserved), 2s. 6d., and 1s., from Messrs. Forsyth Bros., Ltd., 126, Deansgate, and at the door.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton-st., Piccadilly, W.—Lecture, March 15th, "The Principles of a European Settlement," by Prof. L. T. Hobhouse.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE holds PUBLIC MEETINGS at CAXTON HALL, every Wednesday afternoon at 3.30. Come to the Freedom League Rally at Caxton Hall, Friday, March 17th, when the first contribution to the 50,000 Shilling Fund will be presented to Mrs. Despard. Music. Refreshments, 7 to 9.30. Tickets, 6d. each, from W.F.L. Office, 144, High Holborn, W.C.

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THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE are organising a school for training women in baking and confectionery free of charge. Also women who will act as instructresses and organisers of the catering department of a Sunday Club for the entertainment of wounded officers required.—For full particulars apply at once to Janette Steer, Hon. Org. Sec., Actresses' Garden Club, 2, Robert-st., Adelphi, W.C.

POSITIONS VACANT.

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